



Louise Sukari, Barbara Watkins (principal), Penelope Smith and Isabella Codsí from Loreto Normanhurst.

Picture: PETER KELLY

School hails spiritual link to new pope

Tracey Findlay

CATHOLICS across the Hornsby-Ku-ring-gai district are celebrating the appointment of the new pope.

The appointment is particularly exciting for the Loreto Normanhurst community as one of their own is now leading the church.

Loreto Sisters founder Mary Ward was inspired by the teachings of the Jesuits, the same order to which Pope Francis belongs.

School principal Barbara Watkins said Mary Ward was "a people's person" in the same way people are calling Pope Francis "the people's pope". She said the

school was still closely linked with the Jesuits.

"We have the same type of spirituality," she said. "We are excited because we hope that he (Pope Francis) will have a great understanding of the connection with Loreto and also that he very much understands that (Jesuit) idea of being a

person for others.

Liturgy captain Louise Sukari said she was excited about the new pope.

"I think he's really going to move the Catholic Church forward from all the hard times," she said.

"We are going to incorporate a lot of his teachings into our school."